September 8. 1970

SED LO LOS Scary

Mr. Abe Mellinkoff, Editor THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE Fifth & Mission Streets San Francisco, California

Dear Abe:

First, I want to thank you for running the item on my suit against East Bay Municipal Utility District. I think that we will be breaking ground in an area that may apply to other utility districts - although there are only four districts formed under this particular enabling act. The TRIBUNE appearently doesn't think it's important enough to report. They have always had a protective outlook on that agency -- since the days when Joe Knowland helped get it started.

My real purpose in writing, however, is to inquire about the column by Joshua Lederberg -- which has not been present for my Sunday morning enjoyment for some weeks now. At first I thought that he might be on vacation, but now I suspect he may have been executed or whatever is done to columnists. (That may be happening to me -- mine didn't run this week either).

Dr. (Professor?) Lederberg touched on many subjects of great current interest which really are not dealt with in the same manner by the other fine columnists in your Sunday Punch.

If you have taken steps toward execution, I hope there is some manner in which parole can be obtained, and his column returned. I know that unless I -- and others -- write to you, someone could sit there and say. "See --I told you that nobody would miss old Joshua."

Sincerely,

Robert Kahn

Blind Copy to: Professor Joshua Lederberg /